

**ABSTRACT**

A ceramic support capable of supporting a catalyst comprising a ceramic body having fine pores with a diameter or width up to 1000 times the ion diameter of a catalyst component to be supported on the surface of the ceramic body, the number of the fine pores being not less than  $1 \times 10^{11}$  pores per liter, is produced by introducing oxygen vacancies or lattice defects in the cordierite crystal lattice or by applying a thermal shock to form fine cracks.